

Success Story

Erie County



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Dr. Burstein Presents at CDC Grand Rounds

Gale Burstein, MD, with the Erie County Department of Health (ECDOH), was a presenter at the CDC Public Health Grand Rounds seminar on May 20, 2010. This session of Public Health Grand Rounds focused on current efforts to reduce the burden of Chlamydia and its complications, as well as addressed the myriad social disparities and challenges that face those seeking to limit the reach of this serious public health problem. 15,000 people attended the seminar either in person or through the live webcast, the largest audience ever for a CDC Grand Rounds. The CDC Grand Rounds is a monthly series created to further

strengthen CDC's common scientific culture and foster discussion and debate on major public health issues. For more information about this program go to www.cdc.gov/about/grand-rounds/archives/2010/05-May.htm. Some statistics regarding Chlamydia include:

- Erie County has one of the higher rates of Chlamydia in NY State
- 20% of those with Chlamydia get re-infected within 1 year.
- 16.2% of non-Hispanic black females ages 14-19 years old are infected with Chlamydia, and in this group, 10-40% of infertility is due to tubal scarring caused by Chlamydia.

To help combat this problem, the ECDOH STD Clinic will be implementing a text message program for individuals ages 14-19 reminding them that it is time to be retested for Chlamydia. For more information about the STD Clinic please go to www.erie.gov/health/offices/dc_std_clinics.asp.

(06/2010)